

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 AID-20 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /151 W

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R 100920Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4473

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 11737

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR JA VN

SUBJ: DRV-JAPAN RELATIONS

REF: A. VIENTIANE 6853 B. TOKYO 11322 (AND PREVIOUS)

SUMMARY: FONOFF INFORMED EMBASSY NEGOTIATIONS WITH DRV
NARROWED TO GRANT AID FIGURE BETWEEN TWELVE BILLION
YEN GOJ OFFERED AND APPROXIMATELY FIFTEEN BILLION YEN
HANOI DEMANDS. DRV WILLING TO OVERLOOK GOJ POSITION OF
PRG. ALTHOUGH GOJ WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO ISSUE
ANNOUNCEMENT OF PLANS TO ESTABLISH EMBASSY BY SEPT 21
ANNIVERSARY OF ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS,
AID QUESTION MUST BE RESOLVED FIRST. END SUMMARY.

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1. FONOFF FIRST SE ASIA DIV DIRECTOR HANABUSA BRIEFED EMBOFF ON DRV-JAPAN NEGOTIATIONS IN SAME TERMS AS NISHIYAMA IN VIENTIANE (REF A), WITH SLIGHT DIFFERENCES MENTIONED BELOW. GOJ OFFERED TWELVE BILLION YEN GRANT ASSISTANCE (UP FROM TEN BILLION IN OFFER IN JULY) BUT HANOI STILL INSISTS ON NEARLY FIFTEEN BILLION, A DIFFERENCE REFLECTING CHANGED EXCHANGE RATES SINCE GOJ PAID REPARATIONS TO GVN. DRV, APPARENTLY, WILLING TO OVERLOOK GOJ POSITION ON PRG AND OTHER ISSUES. HANABUSA SAID THAT IF HANOI REJECTS TWELVE BILLION YEN OFFER, GOJ WILL BE WILLING TO GRANT FIVE BILLION YEN IMMEDIATELY AND NEGOTIATE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TWELVE AND ALMOST FIFTEEN BILLION FOLLOWING ESTABLISHMENT OF GOJ EMBASSY IN HANOI. HE RATES CHANCES FOR ACCEPTANCE OF LATTER FORMULA AS MORE LIKELY. IN ANY CASE, FINAL AGREED AMOUNT WILL DEFINITELY SETTLE "REPARATIONS" ISSUE. FUTURE ASSISTANCE, GRANT OR CREDIT, WILL BE ON CASE BY CASE BASIS.

2. SUITABLE LIVING QUARTERS FOR JAPANESE EMBASSY FOUND TEN KILOMETERS NE HANOI, IN NEW CONSTRUCTION. SPACE FOR CHANCERY WAS NOT FOUND BUT NORTH VIETNAMESE PROMISED TO FIND FOR JAPANESE.

3. HANABUSA SAID NO DATE FOR OPENING EMBASSY AGREED ON YET BUT ONLY REMAINING OBSTACLE IS AMOUNT OF AID. NATURAL TARGET DATE, ACCORDING TO HANABUSA, IS SEPT 21, ANNIVERSARY OF ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, BUT SUCCESS DEPENDS ON HANOI'S ACCEPTANCE OF ONE OF TWO COURSES OFFERED. RECIPROCITY ON ESTABLISHING EMBASSIES UNDERSTOOD BUT HANOI HAS NOT INDICATED WHEN IT MIGHT WISH TO OPEN EMBASSY IN TOKYO.

4. COMMENT: IF RELATIVELY NARROW GAP AID FIGURE BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES IS OVERCOME, IT WILL BE REGARDED BY GOJ AS SOMETHING OF A VICTORY, ALTHOUGH AN EXPENSIVE ONE, IN THAT GOJ WILL HAVE SUCCEEDED IN OPENING EMBASSY, WHILE MAINTAINING PRINCIPLE OF "NON-RECOGNITION" OF PRG. JAPANESE WILL ALSO HAVE SUCCEEDED IN AVOIDING PROMISES OF FUTURE ASSISTANCE, WHICH MAY ALLOW GOJ SOME LEVERAGE IN FUTURE.

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